

## MISCELLANY.

PARIS, MAY 29, 1846.

The *Constitutionnel* makes a remark which might be applied in the United States: "Various and heavy personal sacrifices are often necessary for the most competent citizens who consent to be Deputies. The most eligible are deterred by them. We are certain that we fall short of the truth when we say that at least twenty of our electoral colleges, who now send Ministerial Deputies, would prefer certain persons of the Opposition party as candidates if they could be prevailed on to stand." The *Constitutionnel* argues that the destinies of France depend on the elections in August. A combination against the Guizot Cabinet is forming, of all the divisions of malcontents, Legitimists and Republicans included. The pertinacious exclusion from the Royal councils of every politician not of the present Ministerial majority, begets, even in the dynastic Opposition leaders, that degree of despondency and disappointment which reconciles them all to extremes.

On the 22d instant the Legitimists held in Paris what they denominate a Congress of the Reforming Press, the editors in chief of all the journals of the *Right*, of Paris and the provinces. To the number of thirty-three, were present, at the residence of LAROCHEJAQUELIN, the Vendean zealot. The most eminent of the party—not of the press—attended the sittings. They issue a *programme* in the shape of a report, acknowledging the principles of popular freedom; all securities for equal rights; in short, all that the liberalism of France could desire, except the old Dynasty. The spirit of the *old régime* strikes to that of the new age. So would it have been in Spain by this time if Don CARLOS had established himself in Madrid. It can scarcely be denied that a regularly constituted and firmly organized despotism, or absolute monarchy, would be better for Spain or Portugal than the recent succession of arbitrary, anarchical, and rapacious governments—the whole being a mere strife of factions, intrigues, and military rivalry and license. The absolute rulers in the north of Europe would not dare attempt what the Spanish and Portuguese habitually practice. It were difficult to decide which situation is the worst, that of one of the kingdoms of the Peninsula. We have the most dismal accounts of Portugal, and the foreign writers at Madrid agree that Spain is on the eve of events quite as melancholy as any which have occurred since the death of Ferdinand VII.

The report of the Attorney General of the examinations and impressions of the Committee of Peers in the case of *Lecomte*, who attempted the life of Louis PHILIPPE, on the 16th ultimo, fills a page and a half of the *Journal des Debats* of yesterday. It is a most comprehensive and able exposition, admirably suited to French appetite and apprehension for such documents. The committee could detect no evidence, no traces of a regicide conspiracy; they were bound to conclude, against all presumption *a priori*, that the culprit was alone in his enterprise. After conviction and sentence, he may be brought to disclosures which will substantiate the general probability of a plot. The report shadows out, towards the end, doubts and misgivings. It can interpret some of the manuscripts of Lecomte only by the predominance of violent political passions. These belong to naturally prompt to association and counsel. Lecomte's character is described as of black misanthropy, moody meditation, wild fanaticism, but strong intelligence, clear discourse, and steadfast purpose. He unfolded his griefs, motives, and acts in the most direct and lucid manner. We shall have a dramatic trial next week. The *National* contends that the dignitaries about the King, to whom Lecomte's letters were addressed, might have been struck with the rage and danger which they betrayed, and should have tracked and watched the writer. Their entire neglect of the man and matter "shows that the King is ill-served," and that "his great functionaries are to be deemed virtually the accomplices of the crime, rather than Mr. TIERNS, with his speeches about 'the royal monopoly of power.'"

On Wednesday LOUIS PHILIPPE had a narrow escape from injury. One of the eight horses of his carriage fell; the rest, in full trot, tumbled over it, with the positions, *pelle melle*; the vehicle was upheld by instant aid from outsiders and the retinue, in the court-yard gate of the Tuileries, in which the accident happened. The King manifested no fear; the Queen much alarm.

A journalist remarks that, if Providence is seen to rescue LOUIS PHILIPPE, there may be inferred a like special protection of ABD-EL-KADER, whose horse is killed under him, in the official bulletins, in every engagement, but who always clears the field and his pursuers by the fleetness of another, and seems to be endowed with ubiquity as well as velocity. Various estimates, more or less authoritative, of the number of the Arabs, have been published from time to time. The Minister of War has just distributed to the Chambers the grand *tableau* view of the establishments in Algeria.

The following statistics from that source claim credit: "It appears from it that the native population in the parts examined by the Arab Bureau amounts, in the province of Constantine, to 1,046,716 souls; in that of Algiers to 490,168, and in that of Oran to 477,034, giving a total of 1,983,918. The whole population in Algeria, Tell, and Sahara, is estimated at 3,000,000 at least. Demands were made, in 1845, to the Minister of the Interior for conscripts of land, to the number of 1,696, by French subjects, and of 183 by foreigners; the demands made to the Minister of War were more important. The French families demanding to emigrate are 464 in number, and their resources reach the sum of 15,091,359 fr.; the foreign families are 572 in number, and their property amounts to 786,195 fr. The civil population which, in December 31, 1844, consisted of 75,420 individuals, had increased in December 31, 1845, to 96,119; the agricultural population in the establishments founded by the Government amounts to 42,812. Not less than 21,009 orders for gratuitous passages were issued in 1845 by the Minister of War."

In one of the recent debates of the Chamber Mr. Guizot was summoned to explain the contrariety in the dispositions and proceedings of the British and French Cabinets towards the Coletti Government in Greece. He answered that they concurred when MAVORCOSTATO was the colleague of COLETTI; but, since the exclusive sway of the latter, the British Cabinet was alienated and determined by the representations of its diplomatic agents at Athens, which were utterly at variance with those of the French. He trusted, however, that his friends on the other side of the channel would be, ere long, disabused, and Lord ALDERDEN propitiated. The fact is, that the British Cabinet and agents know Coletti, how he has been purchased, and what measure of faith is due to his professions and stipulations. Mr. Guizot was obliged, by the statements of a shrewd deputy, MAUGIN, conversant with foreign politics, who passed last year at Madrid, to talk of French situation and policy in that capital, and of the animosities and prospects of the Spanish debt to the French treasury. The debt, he acknowledged, amounted on the whole to ninety-eight millions of francs; no interest had been paid since 1835; every year a demand was preferred, but political difficulties precluded payment; by the Spanish rulers, and political considerations did not allow the French to proceed to extremities. Spain must be helped to repair her finances; he had hopes. It is evident that she will not pay while she understands that there is to be no kind of coercion. Maugin showed that a special and productive impost pledged to France for the gradual payment of the debt was suffered last year to be merged and lost in the new fiscal scheme, without remonstrance or any kind of assertion of right on the part of the French legation at Madrid. There is an *entente cordiale* between the Courts of France and Spain, to which

no sacrifice is refused on either side. Mr. Guizot signified, in regard to a husband for Queen ISABEL—Mauguin having declared the Neapolitan match favored by the French Court to be odious to the Spanish people—that the policy of rejecting every suitor other than a Bourbon would be inflexibly pursued. CHRISTINA, it seems, mortally hates the children of Don FERDINAND, youngest brother of the late Ferdinand, her first husband. Her favorite, the Neapolitan Count of TRAPANI, cannot espouse his cousin ISABEL without particular dispensation from the Pope; and the Vatican asks in return certain ecclesiastical and political concessions under the influence of Austria, which embarrasses the Spanish councils. "The English see and act at Madrid in the sense of Sir Robert Peel's sarcasm concerning French ascendancy at Athens: 'He wished the French joy of their conquest.'"

"The annexed little article of the London Sun attests that *reputation* is not confined to our Union:—  
"MEXICAN BONDS.—At a meeting of the Mexican bondholders, held yesterday, the new terms were indignantly rejected by a majority of at least twenty to one. Capitalists in this country and on the continent of Europe have become heartily tired and disgusted with the oft-repeated attempts to cajole bondholders of all descriptions, whether for loans raised for Spain, Portugal, or for the South American Republics, and a pretty unanimous determination is evinced not to submit to such schemes for the future."

In a debate, on the 18th instant, on the appropriations for the Department of Foreign Affairs, a member entered the tribune for the purpose of asking information concerning the disturbances in Portugal, from the Ambassador for that country, then seated in the Chamber in the Ministerial ranks. This was a just and entertaining proof of both Ambassador and Government: instead of being dispatched to his post, in a critical juncture, he was allowed to remain in Paris for the value of his vote as Deputy. Instances of the kind have been frequent. The Ministerial proposal to raise the salary of the Ambassador at Naples from ninety thousand to one hundred thousand francs, was roughly contested, and Mr. Guizot convicted of a little inconsistency, quite recent, on the subject. The incumbent, the Duke of MONTRELLIO, is a personal favorite of Louis PHILIPPE; hence the favor and the opposition. Mr. Guizot suggested that the title of *Ambassador* gave, alone, the right of treating directly with the monarch, and obtaining audiences of him, in an absolute Government; therefore, France had a sensible interest in adopting and suitably supporting the highest diplomatic rank.

A war of tariffs has been commenced between the Government of Sardinia and the Austrian in Italy. As the King of Sardinia has encouraged eloquent publications in favor of Italian nationality and unity, and liberal institutions and administration, it is inferred that the tariff-contest may mean, on his side, a design of ultimate Italian independence. King CHARLES ALBERT, it is said, could raise, in a fortnight, an excellent army of a hundred thousand men, and the finances of Piedmont are remarkably prosperous: all Italy would answer to his call, and the Austrian domination be at once crushed. But the Holy See would not confederate with the house of Savoy against the Austrians, its protectors; moreover, that house would dread the too constitutional or republican tendencies of a revolution. An eminent Sardinian refugee charges the Sardinian monarch with seeming to encourage the patriotic and liberal oracles, in order the better to beguile the party of reform and peninsular nationality, which, ever and anon, effervesces and occasions a popular glow and monarchical panic.

The colors taken at the battle of the *Obligado*, in the La Plata war, have been pompously carried to the *Hotel des Invalides*, and five of the French combatants, who were severely wounded, are declared admissible to the hospital on their return to France. National pride relishes the French share in that aggression: the *sycee* silver from Canton was welcomed in London as a better trophy than the laurels gained by the British at Obligado. O ye peace-makers, opium-heroes, and joint mediators!

The house on the Quay Napoleon which has been inhabited by Abelard and Eloisa has just been demolished. Well if their whole memory could be so; it is strangely consecrated in French literature. A sealed inscription, which I saw accidentally some years ago, in the wall of the first story of the quaint old edifice, certifies their residence.

The sum allowed in the budget for the *secret expenses* of the Department of Foreign Affairs is six hundred and fifty thousand francs; the contingent fund proper is thirty thousand; forty thousand for diplomatic presents; the total appropriation for the Department is nearly nine millions—a little more than lies annually at the disposal of your Secretary of State; to say nothing of *supplemental credits*.

In a discussion in the Central Congress of Agriculture on the 25th instant, a member expatiated on the success with which the "masses" in the United States were "moralized" by labor, especially in the manufactures. Thousands of young operatives in the same *fabricque*, and morals yet as pure, could be desired! Let us, he exclaimed, try to employ, in this country, in a similar way, the hundreds of thousands of children of indigent families, to whom the State grants and seems to owe nothing, but who have claims on our charity and our prudence. Mix your myriads of *foundlings* with them indifferently, and you will doubly preserve and moralize the latter. The stain of the birth will be effaced in the common existence and training; an excellent scheme. You may find, in the late debates of the House of Commons, very honorable mention of the discipline and the moral and intellectual superiority of the operatives of *Lovell*. In the British factory question stress is laid there on the number of hours of labor in the week—greater, it is observed, than in England; but the feeding, lodging—the whole being of the American operative, give facility for more labor with much less fatigue or disadvantage, of whatever description, than those of any European. A awful testimony was borne in the House to the effects of the usual labor in Great Britain on both adults and children. Still, said Sir JAMES GRAHAM, "if we restrict the hours, we risk all national supremacy and vitality; then we would be bound, in justice to the workmen, to adopt a *minimum* of wages; and, if they did 'take the consequence would be that capital would 'take unto itself wings, and would be invested 'abroad, where wages were lower and there was 'no such legislative interference. The commencement of that career would be the first step towards 'the destruction of our manufacturing prosperity, 'and with the downfall of our manufacturing prosperity we might look for the loss of our position 'amongst the nations of the earth. [Hear, hear,]"

## FOREIGN EXTRACTS.

The Government transport *Cormoran*, sent from France in August last to Basora for the antiquities pieces of sculpture found at Nineveh, arrived at her destination on March 28. The antiquities were at that time at Bagdad, but were to be brought to Basora in barges. To superintend and assist in this operation—which, on account of the immense weight of the blocks, is one of great difficulty—Captain Cabaret, of the *Cormoran*, sent up an officer, and several of his sailors, and all other resources of the ship were placed at the command of Baron DE VERNER, the French Consul at Bagdad, and M. Botta, Consul at Mossoul, to whom France is indebted for these interesting relics.

The *Herald* publishes an official account of the force of the Spanish navy, from which it appears that there are 136 vessels, having together 962 guns, besides 19 vessels which are in the course of building.

GENTLEMEN: In assembling for the discharge of the duties committed to you by the people of Washington, I should be glad to lay before you at your first meeting, the full view of the state of the city, and, especially, detailed accounts of the receipts and disbursements during the past year, and the state of the finances. Full information on these subjects is requisite for a proper understanding of the business which is devolved on your attention, and this will be laid before you as soon as the details of our fiscal year will enable the accounting officers of the Corporation to settle the accounts of the various departments. In the mean time I can refer generally and with

## CONGRESSIONAL.

IN SENATE—JUNE 24, 1846.

Mr. BENTON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill to provide for the organization of the volunteer forces brought into the service of the United States into brigades and divisions, and for the appointment of the necessary number of general officers to command the same.

Mr. BENTON asked that the bill have its second reading now, and intimated his intention to call it up for consideration to-morrow.

Mr. WEBSTER said he was not at all surprised at the introduction of this bill; for he knew it was a necessary one; but it showed, at all events, that the law which it was intended to amend and improve was but a piece of patch-work. That law was not passed for calling into the service of the United States the militia of the country, nor was it passed in the regular exercise of the power conferred upon Congress for raising and maintaining an army. It was a mixed, an anomalous, an incongruous system, as he would venture to say, this early exercise of its modification proved it to be, and as would be made abundantly evident before the war with Mexico was ended.

I shall not (continued Mr. W.) oppose the progress of this bill. I cannot say it is unconstitutional, though I think it is irregular, inconvenient, and not strictly conformable to the exercise of the constitutional power of Congress. If those who are charged with the conduct of the war, and are answerable for its results, think it necessary, I shall not oppose it. But I will take the occasion now presented, sir, of the second reading of an important bill respecting the troops called into the service to carry on the war, to make a few remarks respecting the war itself, and the condition in which we find ourselves in consequence of that war. The war continues, and no man can say definitely when it will end—no man can say, upon any reasonable estimate, what expense will be incurred before its conclusion.

We have received a very important communication from the President—I mean his message of the 16th of June—setting forth his views and opinions, and the views and opinions of the Secretary of the Treasury, with respect to the means and sources of revenue for carrying on the war. Upon this, I have had a few remarks to make.

The Executive is responsible for the conduct of the war, and for the application of the resources put at its disposal by the two houses of Congress for the purpose of prosecuting the war. For one, I shall not deny the Government any supplies which may be considered necessary. Whatever may be the defects of the war, the fact that war does exist is itself a sufficient reason for granting the means for prosecuting it with effect. Those who condemn the origin of the war, and those who most earnestly long for its termination, will all agree that the refusal of supplies would make no amends for what some lament, and would not hasten what I have said.

The message of the 16th of June informs the Senate and the country that, for the fiscal year ending July, 1847, there will, under the operation of the existing law for raising revenue, a deficiency, if the war continues, of twenty millions of dollars, and suggests the ways and means by which it is expected that this deficiency will be made good. I refer to those suggestions for the purpose of making a few observations upon them.

The object is to provide new sources of revenue, which shall realize a fresh amount beyond that furnished by the provisions of the existing law of twenty millions of dollars between this time and the first of July next year. That is the object. The first suggestion in the communication from the Executive Government is, that a half may be raised by the proposed reducing the rates of duties on certain imported articles, and by laying new taxes on certain other articles now free of all duties; meaning principally, I suppose, by those articles now free, and which are to be taxed, tea and coffee. There is also an intimation or an opinion expressed by the Secretary of the Treasury, that a half may be raised by the proposed reducing the rates of duties on certain imported articles, and by laying new taxes on certain other articles now free of all duties; meaning principally, I suppose, by those articles now free, and which are to be taxed, tea and coffee. 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